## **AMENDMENT**

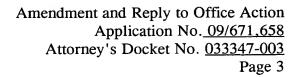
## In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 15 and 25-27 without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicant's filing one or more continuation or divisional applications directed to the canceled subject matter.

Please amend claims 10, 12, 14, and 16-23 so that after the amendments, the following claims are pending in this application:

- 1. (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a 499E9 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.
- 2. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.
- 3. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
- 6. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is a 499E9 antagonist.
- 7. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 6, wherein the antigen binding fragment is a F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, Fab, or F<sub>v</sub> fragment.
- 8. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about  $30\mu M$ .





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9. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about  $10\mu M$ .

- 10.8 (Twice amended) The antibody of claim 1, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that is raised against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
  - a) a substantially pure or recombinant 499E9 polypeptide exhibiting 100% sequence identity over a length of at least 12 contiguous amino acids to SEQ ID NO: 2;
  - b) a natural sequence 499E9 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
  - c) a fusion protein comprising 499E9 sequence.

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11. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about 3  $\mu$ M.

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(Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment is conjugated to a detectable label.

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- 13. The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 12, wherein the detectable label is an enzyme, a fluorescent label, or radioisotope.
- 14.12 (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.

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- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antibody is a 499E9 antagonist.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antigen binding fragment is a F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, Fab, or F<sub>v</sub> fragment.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim  $10^{\circ}$ , wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about 30  $\mu$ M.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim  $\frac{3}{10}$ , wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K<sub>d</sub> of at least about 10  $\mu$ M.
  - (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim  $10^{10}$ , wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about 3  $\mu$ M.
    - (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a 499E9 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the antibody is raised against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
      - a) a substantially pure or recombinant 499E9 polypeptide exhibiting 100% sequence identity over a length of at least 12 contiguous amino acids to SEQ ID NO: 2;
      - b) a natural sequence 499E9 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
    - c) a fusion protein comprising 499E9 sequence; wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment is conjugated to a detectable label.



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24. The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 23, wherein the detectable label is an enzyme, a fluorescent label, or radioisotope.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached herewith on separate pages.